THE

HISTORY

OF

Fanny Thoughtless.

LONDON:

Printed by C. E. Knight,
St. Katharine's-square.

FOR J. DAVIS, No. 56,
PATERNOSTER-ROW.

This little girl was called Fanny Thoughtless. One day she saw some jam upon a high shelf, and I am sorry to say she tried to get it without asking leave. See what happened, she climbed on a chair to reach the jam, the chair slipped and down she fell, and cut her forehead very sadly. The tenth Commandment says " Thou shalt not covet."

It is raining very hard, and Fanny Thoughtless and her companion Sally Prate-apace have got an umbrella; but they are so busy talking, that they do not hear Fanny's little sister asking them to stop, and let her come under the umbrella. This is foolish talking, as it causes them to be unkind.

Lydia Sprightly came one day to play with Fanny, and for sometime they agreed very well; at last they quarrelled which doll had the prettiest coloured hair, and Fanny was so naughty, that her mamma was forced to order that she should be put to bed. "The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water, therefore, leave off contention before it is meddled with."

That is Fanny's chaise, her papa bought it for her, and one or other of her brothers used to draw her about in it, when she asked them properly, as she appears to have done now. I hope you remember always to say, "If you please." "A good word maketh the heart glad." "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss."

Here is thoughtless Fanny trying to have a ride upon the garden roller, this was very silly, as she had such a nice little chaise of her own. But children, and grown people too, often leave what is good, and choose what is worse. Let us pray, that we may be directed to choose things which shall bring us peace at the last.

Fanny undertook to teach her little brother William to read, but she did not set about it in a kind manner. See how she has seated herself upon the sofa, and is saying, "Come here now directly, and mind you say your lesson properly." This was not the way to make him love her. Little boys and girls do not love those who are unkind to them.

Fanny's mamma gave her as much fruit as was good for her, but Fanny was so silly as to go to that woman and buy some, though it was not so nice as what she had at home. Little William is telling her it is not right to buy fruit, without asking leave. Perhaps he reminded her about Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit. I dare say you recollect about that.

The next day a poor lame man brought some books to the door, printed on purpose for children, with a great many pretty pictures in them. Fanny asked leave to buy one, and when she had chosen one she liked, she put her hand in her pocket for a penny to pay for it, but she had spent all her money for the fruit the day before: see how sorry she looks.

Fanny. I wish papa would send for Punch, why does he not like him to come to our house?

Charles. Papa says that Punch talks a great deal of nonsense, and speaks many naughty words, and that such things are much easier learnt than forgotten; besides the men who show him are idle people, and it is not right to encourage them.

Fanny was walking with her brothers one day, and she told them that she was much cleverer and wiser than they were, though they were the eldest. They laughed at her, and said if she was so very clever and wise, she had better not take the trouble to walk with such children as they were, and they left her as you see. "Be not wise in your own conceit."

Fanny stood one day by a knife-grinder's wheel, and she saw the sparks which appeared very pretty, and she was so thoughtless as to attempt to catch them; and, as might be expected, she cut her hand very sadly with the knife the man was grinding. The Bible compares a deceitful tongue to a sharp razor

Fanny, and some of her little friends, went one day to a lady's house, where she saw some gold and silver fish. The lady is showing them to the children, and explaining that they are only to look at them, but not to touch the glass. Remember "every fool will be meddling." I hope Fanny was not so naughty.

I am glad to say that she wa not always Fanny Thoughtless.– After some time, she found hov very unhappy her thoughtless way made her friends and herself; an she remembered that her mothe one day showed where it was writ ten in the Bible, " The thought o foolishness is sin."

Fanny prayed to God to forgive her for her past foolishness, and to give her a new heart which should be wiser; and that He would keep her from foolish and naughty ways. She remembered that one of her little hymns said,

Christ can all my sins forgive,
And wash away their stain;
And fit my soul with him to live,
And in his kingdom reign.

And I am glad to be able to say, that she is not called Fanny Thoughtless now.

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